

# THE PALATKA NEWS

and Advertiser.

NEW SERIES VOL. VVIV, NO. 8.

PALATKA, FLORIDA, FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1916.

\$1.00 Per Year.

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## The Putnam National Bank of Palatka

PALATKA, FLORIDA

Total Assets, June 10h ..... \$700,000.00  
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According to the New York Financial Review we are the second strongest bank in Florida.  
Our Safe Deposit Boxes, double lock system, are the best make. \$3.00 per year.  
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## PALATKA, ANNO DOMINI, NINETEEN-SIXTEEN.

For the Unborn People of the Future Generation—

The People Who Will Get Curious Some Day and Open this Stone to Read of the People Who Laid It.

A copy of this issue of The Palatka News is to be among the papers to be preserved to posterity in the corner stone of the new government building, the same to be laid and sealed with imposing Masonic ceremonies tomorrow.

It is appropriate, therefore, that posterity should, through this journal, be able to learn something of the city and the people and the motives that move them at this time.

The time: February 26th, A. D. 1916.

Palatka is a pretty city of 5,000 inhabitants. We speak guardedly as to this number, because our census enumerator is a man of moods, capable of both expansion and contraction. The 5,000 were named as his number when he took the State's census in the summer of 1915. In the sweet spring time of the same year, when he took the census for purely home consumption, he stated that "Palatka's population is 7,358, of which 3,585 are colored," meaning Negroes.

So, dear posterity, we are keeping on the safe side and giving you the lowest figure.

It will not be your good fortune to know this enumerator. His name was Julian d'Nazarie; it may be Mud, for all we know now; he is gone and we can't predict the manner of his going, nor point you to his grave. However, you probably have examples of his robust type among yourselves; you may be familiar with the species.

Palatka had seven miles of brick paved streets in 1916, and all the streets had fine concrete sidewalks. The latter are gradually coming into disuse, as our people have generally taken to getting about in automobiles, a gasoline perambulator of the early twentieth century which, if doing nothing more, is keeping the men of its generation poor.

The city has plenty of water which comes from the springs in the hills to the west of us. Two water companies furnish our supply, for we are great water drinkers. One of the companies is a Boston concern, while the other is a municipally owned plant. They are somewhat antagonistic, each claiming the best water. To most of us it is merely wet, but connoisseurs differ. They are privileged, however, to pay their money and take their choice. The city is, at this writing, on the banks of the St. Johns river, which is also largely composed of water. It is a majestic river, lined with beautiful sub-tropical vegetation, which is the promoter's way of designating a swamp, or semi-jungle.

John Mallen is the man nearest the river to deal in soft drinks, other than water. He handles a line of fizz which exhilarates but does not intoxicate. It is only at Christmas time that he gets anything stronger, when his brother, who is a resident of Jerusalem, not the new Jerusalem, but the original town by that name in Palestine, sends him a bottle of arak, the national drink of Palestine, and at which time he calls in Jack Flinn and a few others of us and allows us to irrigate in the Davis law fashion, and just to show there is no ill feeling.

We have a number of beautiful business blocks and some of the finest private residences in the State, but we feel that this government building is to constitute our most beautiful and imposing public building, the High School building, yet in embryo, not excepted.

Most Palatkans of this present time are very grateful to the government for the gift of this building, particularly as it comes to us during a democratic administration. With the exception of George Gay and several other prominent citizens, we are all democrats—followers of Thos. Jefferson. Harry Gray, a dyed-in-the-wool democrat, is our postmaster, and therefore will be custodian of the building. He will have an office in the southwest corner, which will have marble wainscoting and be furnished with one of J. H. Yelverton's most exclusive rugs and mahogany trappings. Once in this beautiful office he can loll back in his mahogany swivel chair, place his patent-leather covered feet on the mahogany desk and smoke a Made-in-Palatka cigar while he talks to his bosom friend, Tony Usina, seated opposite, about current events.

As a rule Palatkans are a peace-loving people. At the present time, however, we are somewhat divided over a new municipal charter which has been vouchered for by Hon. Howell A. Davis. The contest appears at this time (three days before the election which is to decide its fate) to be unequal. Favoring the charter is Mr. Davis and Abe Potash, the urbane and accomplished editor of our leading morning paper, The Morning Postman. Opposing it is the proletariat, led by our most conspicuous socialist, Caius Alexander LeHardy, who only recently delivered an address on the subject that would have gone tumbling down the corridors of time had only some one thought to start the tumbling.

Men who give very little time to the discussion of municipal matters

## PUTNAM COUNTY'S FARM EXPERT HERE

L. L. Cantrell has wide Experience and is Highly Recommended.

L. L. Cantrell, Putnam County's Agricultural expert has assumed his duties and though in the county now only a few days has already made a most favorable impression on all whom he has met.

Mr. Cantrell comes to Florida from Covington County, Ala., where he has been employed as farm demonstrator for the last year. Professor H. A. Pettus, principal of the County High School, in a letter to the editor of the Andalusia Star says:

"I have just read your article in the last issue of The Star, stating that L. L. Cantrell, our county demonstration agent, is soon to leave for Florida. We regret very much that he must go. In the first place, because his services have been of untold benefit to the county, and because Covington county can ill afford to be without someone to fill his position, just at this time.

Mr. Cantrell has had five years experience in government soil survey work in Central states which makes him a particularly valuable man for Putnam county, more particularly for the new comers who are so rapidly taking up the lands of the county. He is a graduate of the Polytechnic Institute at Auburn, Ala., and before that was graduated from the Smith District Agricultural College at Hamilton, Ala. He was also a first grade teacher in Alabama and had four years experience in rural schools.

Mr. Cantrell who is accompanied by his wife will make his home in Palatka and they are warmly welcomed in Palatka's intellectual and social circles.

On Washington's Birthday Mr. Cantrell attached the patriotic celebrations at Mannville and Kenwood where at each place about one hundred progressive farmers and their families were gathered.

### Woman's Missionary Society.

The Woman's Missionary Society of the Methodist church held its regular monthly literary and social meeting at the home of Mrs. L. A. Smith last Monday afternoon.

A special program was rendered, consisting of a reading by Mrs. John Walton; vocal solo, Miss Uri; vocal solo, Mrs. Cohen; vocal solo, Mrs. Smith; duet, Mesdames Hamm and Phillips. Mrs. John C. Letts of Washington, D. C., read a letter received by her husband from a missionary in India. The letter was full of interest and told of a wonderful Christian work being done among the people of India. Refreshments of block ice cream and cake were served.

A straight line is shortest in morals as well as in geometry.—Rabel.

but who do some voting when the time comes to vote, tremble for the fate of this charter. As we stated before it is to be voted on next Tuesday, the 29th inst.

There is much more that could be said concerning Palatka, but as you have probably noticed that our space is valuable, we must cut this short.

Palatka has a sewer system and three banks. It has two grave yards and only seven doctors. There is one white undertaker and a Negro undertaker who plants dead negroes—or all he can get to plant. We have five churches for white people and about the same number for Negroes. Our negroes are much given to religion. It is their chief mental exercise.

The war in Europe which has been raging for some two years has hurt us in a business way—at least it is the reason most generally given for the present dullness of trade. We have a good many farmers who are making money raising potatoes on the east side of the river. They spend their days in their potato orchards and their evenings at the Elks club, many of them. Several of them are counting on getting rich enough on the coming crop to buy a new automobile of the 1917 pattern.

We cannot close without remarking that the oration over the laying of this cornerstone, will be made by Col. S. J. Hilburn, who is without doubt our most eloquent orator. He is frequently called on to do work of this kind; only last week having introduced William Jennings Bryan to an audience in one of our local theaters. You may not know much about this William Jennings Bryan, but suffice it to say that he got his political start twenty years ago by proclaiming the "heaven-born" ratio of 'teen to one, as between silver and gold, and that for all the years following, up to now he has been in the limelight as our most frequent candidate for the presidency and most conspicuous democrat. Just now he is for peace as against war, though strange as it may seem, most of our people prefer war.

But we were talking about Sam Hilburn; wish you all might know him. While he lived he worked hard practicing law and politics and amassed a fortune; later he had leisure to cultivate his ease, and so he was called upon frequently for orations. He of course will have been a long time dead when this box is made to give up its contents, but you who read this can gamble on his being a tenant of one of the most conspicuous stars in the firmament. None of your milky way starlets for Sam Hilburn.

## ROYAL BAKING POWDER

Absolutely Pure  
No Alum—No Phosphate

## CORNER STONE OF NEW POSTOFFICE

Will be Laid by Grand Master Crane with Impressive Ceremonial

Special Communication of Masonic Grand Lodge Called for the Purpose.

All arrangements for the laying of the corner stone of the new Palatka postoffice building tomorrow morning have been made.

The calling of the special communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida by Grand Master James E. Crane, of Tampa, will bring a large number of visiting Masons to the city.

Tonight, in order that local Masons may get better acquainted with the visitors, there will be a special communication of Palatka Lodge, and at which time the Master's degree will be conferred by the Grand Lodge committee.

Among the Grand Lodge officers to be here are Jas. E. Crane, Grand Master; Dr. A. S. York, deputy Grand Master; and R. H. Cooper of this city, Grand Junior Warden. Besides there will be a number of Past Grand Masters, including Marcus Endel, James Carnell, Silas B. Wright, E. E. Haskell, and others.

The corner stone laying will be an impressive ceremony. The exercises are to take place promptly at 10 o'clock tomorrow (Saturday) morning. A feature of the exercises will be the presentation of a solid silver trowel, presented to the Palatka Lodge by the Palatka board of trade. This will be used in the laying of the stone.

The order of exercises will be as follows:

1. Prayer, Rev. P. Q. Cason.
2. Selection, Second Regiment band.
3. Address, Hon. S. J. Hilburn.
4. Selection, Second Regiment band.
5. Presentation of Trowel, for use in laying corner-stone, Hon. W. P. Merriam, mayor of the city of Palatka.
6. Laying of corner-stone, M. W. Grand Lodge, F. and A. M. of Florida, James E. Crane, grand master.
7. Prayer by Grand Chaplain.
8. Ceremonies, Minutes Deposited in corner stone.
9. (Music.) corner stone laid, etc., music.
10. Second Regiment band.
11. Address.
12. Anthem, by all, led by Second Regiment band.
13. Prayer.
14. Grand lodge retires.

The procession will be formed on First street, and under escort of Knights Templar, headed by Second Regiment band, will march south on First street, thence turn on Second street to Lemon street; thence along Lemon street to mark west of courthouse; thence north to Reid street; thence east on Reid street to Building site.

A grand stand has been built just to the west of the corner-stone site, and which will accommodate some 500 people. This grand stand encroaches on one-half the street, but Mayor Merriam has issued a proclamation closing Second street from Reid street to the Saratoga Hotel, to vehicles during the hours of the ceremony.

Word comes that Masons from all parts of the county will be here, as well as many from distant parts of the State.

### Putnam Man Wins Prizes.

As usual Charles Francis of Interlachen has been pulling down the large majority of the first prizes for poultry exhibits at the various fairs held in Florida during the winter.

Again at Orlando last week the list of prizes has the name of Chas. Francis more times than all other exhibitors combined. The list was published in the Times-Union of the 18th inst.

As a breeder of fancy poultry Mr. Francis probably has the largest variety of blooded cockerels and hens of any one in the State, and his exhibits are doing much in stimulating a love for poultry raising in Florida.

### Pete Hagan Disabled.

P. M. Hagan, deputy internal revenue collector, met with a painful though not serious accident one day last week near Jacksonville. Mr. Hagan had been called on special duty at an early hour in the morning, before sun up, and when about six miles from Jacksonville stepped suddenly into a hole some four feet deep, from which he suffered a most painful injury. Since the accident Mr. Hagan has been confined to his bed in Jacksonville, where he is attended by his wife and daughter. At first Dr. Morris, who is treating him, thought an operation would be necessary, but fortunately this was avoided. Mr. Hagan is getting better and hopes to be home in a day or two, ready to resume his campaign for Sheriff.

## STATE HEALTH TRAIN IN PALATKA TOMORROW

Under Supervision of Dr. J. Y. Porter, State Health Officer.

The health exhibit which the State Board of Health is exhibiting in all parts of Florida this winter and which is being carried from place to place on a special train fitted out for the purpose under direction of Dr. Joseph Y. Porter, one of the most commanding figures in the world in his relations to the promotion of public health, will arrive in Palatka this evening over the Florida East Coast Railway from the south.

President Fearnside of the State Board of Health, who has arranged for the exhibit being shown in Palatka, has arranged for the train being placed on a side-track within easy access of the people, who are invited to call and inspect.

The exhibit is one of the most marvelous collections in the country, and everything connected with it has been placed with the view of educating the people by object lesson to sanitary and right living.

Dr. Porter, who is considered an authority on matters of public health in all parts of the country, is in personal charge. It was Dr. Porter who stood guard in Jacksonville during the yellow fever scourge more than a decade ago. It was this same Dr. J. Y. Porter who has made the recurrence of such an epidemic in Florida practically impossible. Florida owes to this remarkable man more than it can ever repay. He points the way to State Health and his directions are all so sensible and so easily followed that Floridians have generally adopted them and as a result this once fever stricken and one of the great health centers of the world.

The exhibit tomorrow is of course free; it is your exhibit; a school of health. Be sure to see it.

Dr. Porter writes that his trip down the east coast has been a great success; thousands have availed themselves of the opportunity to visit this wonderful school of health.

### Voters in Charter Election.

The question as to who is eligible to vote in the charter election next Tuesday is frequently being asked.

The News interviewed Henis Petermann, city registration officer on this point and Mr. Petermann said: "Only those are eligible to vote in the city charter election who were qualified voters of the city at the city election of April, 1915. The books have not been opened for others to qualify."

### High School Celebration.

The Fourth and Fifth grades of the Palatka high school celebrated the birth of Washington on Tuesday with a delightful program of music and recitations participated in by the pupils and ladies of the city. The celebration was at the school building. The following program was rendered:

America, school.

The Good Old Times, Coy Hancock.

A Life Like Washington's, Ruby Moody.

A Modern Washington, William Stumpe.

George Washington, Richard Jarrett.

A Boy, Karl Morrison.

George Washington, Marybel Lane.

Martha Lee Hughes, Josephine Livingston.

Inez Faulkner, Doris Causey.

George Washington, B. F. Taylor.

Our Country's Son, Alfred Mertens.

The Birth Day Lesson, Betty Holtz.

He Never Told a Lie, Leonard Fiddia.

Just Like Washington, Oren Davis.

Two Portraits, Emily Nerwich.

Washington and I, Earl Fenton.

Our Old Sweet Song, school.

Which General? Orval Boyce.

Number One, Eunice Minton.

George Washington, sixteen children.

Doubting Dad, Lamar Walker.

Guess Who? Clarice Newton.

Flag Drill, six boys and six girls.

The following interesting program was rendered by the Thalian Literary Society, today at 2 p. m. in the Putnam High school:

Piano solo, Vaniti Trembley.

Essay on Washington, Frank Owen.

Holmes' Ode on Washington, Gilbert Holden.

Boys' quartette, Jack Merriam, Warren Sleep, Dewey Hutchins, Mercer Davis.

Patriotism address, Mrs. D. J. Coughlin.

Piano solo, Mary Belle Stallings.